

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SCA-01 SAM-01 /104 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN/D/PW-FSIEVERTS:JFC

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S - WHLUERS

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R 092042Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071653

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, SY, IS

SUBJECT: SYRIAN POWS IN ISRAEL

1. DURING CALL ON DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON APRIL 8, SYRIAN INTERESTS SECTION CHIEF KABBANI SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY DAMASCUS THAT SYRIAN PRISONERS IN ISRAEL BEING BADLY MISTREATED. KABBANI ALLEGED SYRIAN PRISONERS ARE BEING KEPT IN CROWDED CONDITIONS AND NOT ALLOWED EXERCISE OR READING MATERIALS; SAID IN SOME CASES WOUNDED HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED PREMATURELY FROM HOSPITALS TO PRISONS. KABBANI SAID SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAS LEARNED OF HUNGER STRIKE BY PRISONERS RECENTLY IN PROTEST OF THESE VIOLATIONS OF GENEVA CONVENTION. KABBANI SAID REPORTS OF THIS KIND CAN ONLY ACCENTUATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO REACH AGREEMENT.

2. DEPTOFF ASKED WHETHER SYRIA WAS ASKING USG TAKE SOME PARTICULAR ACTION IN THIS MATTER. KABBANI SAID HE WAS
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BRINGING MATTER UP WITH USG IN ORDER THAT IT MIGHT DO WHAT

IT CAN TO ALLEVIATE CONDITIONS OF SYRIAN POWS IN ISRAEL.

3. MISSION REQUESTED MAKE INQUIRY WITH ICRC AS FOLLOWS:
USG ASSUMES ICRC HAS GIVEN SYRIA AS WELL AS ISRAEL COPIES
OF ITS REPORTS ON ITS VISITS TO SYRIAN POWS. USG, HOWEVER,
WANTS ICRC TO KNOW ON STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS OF THIS
SYRIAN APPROACH TO US AND WOULD WELCOME ICRC'S COMMENTS,
WHICH WE WOULD OF COURSE BE PREPARED TREAT AS CONFIDENTIAL.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY VIOLATION, HUMAN RIGHTS, PRISONERS WELFARE, POW CAMPS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FSIEVERTS:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: SREF, SY, IS
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
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